

**A METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PREVENTING NITROGEN INTERFERENCE IN PYRO-ELECTROCHEMICAL METHODS**

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

Methods and apparatus are described for preventing nitrogen interference in the detection of a substance. In particular, it relates to new methods and apparatus for preventing interference due to nitrogen in pyro-electrochemical methods for measuring substances, for example sulfur content, contained within liquids such as petroleum products and beverages. One preferred apparatus and method comprises a catalytic converter or thermal converter to selectively remove the nitrogen-containing interferant, for example  $\text{NO}_2$ , in the pyrolyzed gas stream to NO without affecting the sulfur content. A second preferred apparatus and method comprises a chemical scrubber to selectively remove the nitrogen-containing interferant from the gas stream without affecting the sulfur content.